

U.S.S.N. 09/011,306
FILED: March 30, 1998
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.196(b)

APPENDIX: Clean copy of claims as amended

1. (twice amended) A method for inducing an immune response against transformed, infected or diseased tissue in a patient comprising

treating the blood of the patient to remove the components present in the blood having a molecular weight of 120,000 daltons or less, and not the majority of the immunoglobulin G, until the transformed, infected, or diseased tissue is reduced in amount.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the tissue is a solid tumor.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the components are removed from one blood volume.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the components are removed in multiple treatments.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising treating the tissue with an agent selected from the group consisting of anti-angiogenic compounds, procoagulant compounds, cytokines, chemotherapeutic agents, and radiation.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the agent is a cytokine and the cytokine is selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, erythropoietin, thrombopoietin, G-CSF, M-CSF and SCF.
7. The method of claim 1 further comprising selectively removing soluble TNF receptor 1 and receptor 2 molecules.

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8. The method of claim 1 further comprising vaccinating the patient with a vaccine against the transformed, infected or diseased tissue, wherein the vaccine is produced by immunization with antigens unique to the transformed, infected or diseased tissue.

9. (twice amended) A system for inducing an immune response against transformed, infected or diseased tissue in a patient comprising

a device for removing only components present in the blood having a molecular weight of 120,000 daltons or less, and not the majority of the immunoglobulin G, having inlet and outlet means for connection to a pump and tubing to recirculate the blood of a patient through the device.

10. The kit of claim 17 wherein the agent is an anti-angiogenic compound.

11. The kit of claim 17 wherein the agent is a procoagulant compound.

12. The kit of claim 17 wherein the agent is a cytokine.

13. The kit of claim 12 wherein the agent is a cytokine and the cytokine is selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, erythropoietin, thrombopoietin, G-CSF, M-CSF and SCF.

14. The kit of claim 17 wherein the agent is a chemotherapeutic agent.

15. The kit of claim 14 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of alkylating agents, doxorubicin, carboplatinum, cisplatinum, and taxol.

16. The system of claim 9 wherein the system includes means for administering radiation to the tissue.

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17. (twice amended) A system for treatment of a patient to induce an immune response against transformed, infected or diseased tissue comprising:

(a) a device for removing only components present in the blood having a molecular weight of 120,000 daltons or less, and not the majority of the immunoglobulin G, and

(b) an agent selected from the group consisting of anti-angiogenic compounds, procoagulant compounds, cytokines, chemotherapeutic agents, and radiation, in a dosage formulation for treatment of the patient in combination with treatment of the patient with the device to remove blood components having a molecular weight of 120,000 daltons or less.

18. The system of claim 9 wherein the device is a capillary membrane filter with a pore size of between about 0.02 and 0.05 microns.

19. The system of claim 9 wherein the device is a parallel plate filter with a pore size of between about 0.04 and 0.08 microns.

20. The system of claim 9 wherein the device comprises filters with different pore sizes or geometries to provide for staggered removal of materials from the blood.

21. The system of claim 9 wherein the device is an absorbant column selectively removing specific cytokine or cellular inhibitors from the blood.

22. The system of claim 9 wherein the blood is plasma.

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23. The kit of claim 17 further comprising anticoagulant to treat the device for removal of components from the blood prior to use.

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